

Stats As on 31-10-1991

	<i>Gorakhpur District</i>	<i>Maharajganj District</i>
No. of Telephone Exchanges working as on 31-3-1991	15	11
No. of Panchayat Villages covered with telephone facility during 1991-92	74	63

The remaining Panchyat Villages in these Districts have been planned to be covered with telephone facility by 31st March, 1995.

Post Offices in Panchayats in the Country

624. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to open post offices in various panchayats in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to give priority to the districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh i.e. Maharajganj, Gorakhpur, Deoria, Gonda, etc; and

(c) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Post offices in rural areas are opened keeping in view financial, distance and population norms prescribed for the purpose. Panchayat Headquarters are given preference for opening of post offices subject to fulfilment of these norms.

(b) and (c). While no priority as such is being accorded to the Districts of Eastern

U.P. In the matter of opening of Post Offices, it is, however, proposed to open the following number post offices at Maharajganj, Gorakhpur, Deoria and Gonda during the current year 1991-92.

Maharajganj	-	6
Gorakhpur	-	9
Deoria	-	20
Gonda	-	14

Terrorist Activities in Foothills Areas of Uttar Pradesh

625. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government had asked for Central Security forces from centre to combat the increasing terrorist activities in the foothill areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the extent of security forces sought by the Government of Uttar Pradesh and when these were asked for;

(c) the number of groups of para-military forces sent by the Union Government; and

(d) whether the State Government have sent any other scheme to the centre to

combat the increasing terrorist activities and if so, the difficulties faced by the Union Government in approving the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Request was received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh in October, 1991, for despatch of 76 coys. of Para-military forces for law and order duties. Taking into account various factors such as availability of the forces etc. additional coys. to the extent possible were provided to the State Government.

(d) No, Sir.

Post Offices in Rural Areas and to Nayaya Panchayats in Country

626. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to provide post offices in all the rural areas and Nayaya Panchayats in the country; and

(b) if so, whether the post offices would be opened in all the villages having population of more than five thousand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Post offices in rural areas are opened keeping in view financial, distance and population norms prescribed for the purpose. Panchayat Headquarters are given preference for opening of post offices subject to fulfilment of these norms. The norms for opening of a post office in rural areas are give as under:-

(1) Population:-

- (a) In normal areas : 3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO village)
- (b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible areas:

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

(2) Distance:-

- (a) In normal areas: The minimum distance from the nearest post office will be 3 kms.
- (b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible areas:-

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in hilly areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

(3) Anticipated income:-

- (a) In normal areas:- The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33 1/3% of cost.
- (b) In Hilly, Tribal, desert and Inaccessible areas: The minimum anticipated in-